(1) Number of pages

(2) Date of repair

(3) Initials of the Referencer

MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

Government of Madras.

Public works DEPARTMENT.

G.O. No. 69 Press ~~Mis.~~

133-35

Dated 11. 1 1872.

Not to be folded or roughly handled

has been fine plastered, and [illegible]ed a-
-ing to original models, and surface Colou[r]
almost equal in extent to the old Colouring.
The latter when viewed at a proper distance
presents that peculiar "bloom" so charackristic
of Oriental Colouring and to my Eye is as
pleasing as any other system of polychromatic
decoration with which I am acquainted. Ther[e]
is a peculiarity about this system of Colouring
worth mentioning; Only the crude colors are employ-
-ed, such as Red, Blue, Yellow, Orange, Green, and
black, but there are invariably laid on so as to
balance and neutralize the general effect; in a
row of leaves for instance, primary and secondary
tints will be used alternately, such as red + green
The effect when seen at a distance being a tertiary
or the same effect will be produced by Colouring
the leaves in triplets of Red, Yellow, and Blue; but
I know of no Case where the primaries are first
mixed and than laid on as a tertiary tint. If a
richer effect is desired a primary will alternate
with a primary such as Red + Blue, resulting in
the effect of purple. This system of Colouring
probably arose from the few pigments employed,
Indigo, Green, and the ochres, raw + burnt, but from
it arose a very peculiar and important effect
an artificial aerial perspective. All the
Colors near the Eye are of the brightest, but
quickly fade as they recede until they resolve
[illegible]

themselves into general neutral bloom which an artist would call "texture". The importance of such a System to describe vastness of space, will readily be seen.

A small quantity of internal plaster work and mounting, yet remains to be Completed in the interior.

New Municipal Office

The new Offices for the municipality have been Completed, and will be ready for use as soon as the doors and windows have been fastened.

They have now the following rooms;

1 Entrance Hall
2 Board Room
3 Clerk's Room
4 Store Room

The Municipality have expressed their satisfaction in having obtained these Offices, and it is their intention I believe to apply to me for designs for suitable furniture.

New Court to the South West

This room has been enclosed by an additional wall partially replastered and will I trust be shortly in a Condition to allow the Judge to move in

General Remarks

As His Excellency The Governor only recently inspected the Palace works, It would be superfluous for me to make any general descriptive remarks, I would beg leave however to place it on record that in my opinion no more money should be spent on decorative work until the whole structure is rendered safe and durable.

Only lately during heavy rain a large piece of masonry, nearly a Ton in weight, fell from one of the side arcades and several others portions are in a most Critical Condition although little damage is done to the building by such accidents they are calculated to shake the confidence of the public, who are not in a position to Judge of the adequacy of the preservative measures employed. For this portion of the work, a reliable Estimate might be framed by the D. P. W. on my specifications.

I have the honor to be

Sir,

Your most Obedient Servant.

R. F. Chisholm

Consultg Archt to Government.

Public Works 1871 Department
Pro: of G. O. for Dairy
No. 5426.

From
The Consulting Architect
to Government

Dated 10th November } 1871
Received 13th Do. }

No. 250.

62

Report of the progress of the works and restorations being carried out at the old Palace of Terroomala Naik at Madura.

[illegible]

No. 135

~~[illegible]~~ 62 Dec/71 Pa. 7th

Minute by His Ex: The Governor.

As I recently have had an opportunity of inspecting the works of the Madras Palace in company with Mr. Chisholm it may be right that I should record my opinion as to the progress which has been made and as to the course that should be pursued in future.

A. A.

J. D. S.

[illegible]

II In order to render the subject more transparent to the Members of Govt. and to save the trouble of referring to past correspondence I may be permitted to offer a brief description of the building in connection with the accompanying sketch which will explain, at a glance,

What has been done
And what, in my
Opinion, ought to be done.
III The group of build-
ings called Toronola's
Palace, as we now possess
them, embody the
following portions more
or less distinct from
each other.
(1.) A great Court, marked
on the Sketch , with its
dependencies including
its surrounding porticoes
B.B. two Square Halls
C.C. a waggon vaulted
vestibule D. a large circular
Hall under a great dome
E and a considerable
area divided, by rows
of columns, with Spaces
of various forms and
dimensions under
domeform or vaulted
roofs. F. F.
(2.) A row of large rooms

at present three in number, behind the great circular hall which are marked in the Sketch G. G.

(3) A great oblong vaulted Hall with lateral aisles which are divided into two Stories H. H.

(4) A small circular Building covered by a dome and marked I., attached to the oblong Hall.

(5) A range of rooms outside the main walls of the building near the present entrance to the great Court. J. J.

IV. The works undertaken by Mr. Chiddin during the last two years have had two objects: the restoration of ruinous and dangerous portions of the building, a mechanical work; and the restoration

of the old mural
painting, or decorative
work. Both operations
were necessary in order
to convince the Govt.
and the Public that
the expenditure of Govt.
Funds proposed could
be rendered both useful
and ornamental.

V. The mechanical
restorations to which I
refer provided for the
following objects:

(1) For the repair and
security of the principal
facade of the great
K.K.
Court, of which a Photo-
graph is enclosed, ex-
hibiting its former
condition. This facade
extends in front of the
waggon vaulted vestibule D.
and of the Great Circular
E.
Hall, used as the Court
of the Civil and Sessions

2.

Judge: It threatened an imminent Ruin and if it had fallen it would have drawn after it the Vestibule D. And the Hall itself E. The restoration was indispensable and it has been happily accomplished. The Waggon shaped roof of the Vestibule has been secured by Iron ties, missing pillars have been supplied, the roof has been rendered water tight, a mass of masonry which had fallen out of the Central Arch of the facade has been replaced, the great Cornice has been restored and the facade ~~towards~~ next the Great Court has been secured against further decay by being replastered after the old models.

These works conducted,
in part, at an elevation
of more than eighty feet
under very critical con-
ditions reflect much
credit on the Govt. Archi-
tect and his Native
Subordinates whose courage
must often have been
severely tried.
Regarding the question
in a material or
utilitarian point of
view this work saved
the present Court-House.
(2.) Two rooms G.G.
behind the Court-House
have been repaired.
These rooms are destined
eventually, it is hoped,
for the accommodation
of the Collector but they
will be required mean-
while for the use of
the Civil and Session

Court

Court which cannot
Continue to sit, with
Convenience, under the
great dome [E] while the
works are being pro:
secuted in its immed:
-iate neighbourhood.

VI. The decorative restora:
tions embrace the follow:
ing objects:

(1) The repainting of the
waggon shaped vault
in the vestibule D
of which I have spoken
above.

(2) The painting of a
small dome in the
pillared space marked
F.

3. The painting of the
ceiling of the two apart:
ments intended for the
temporary accommoda:
tion of the Civil and
Sessions Court. EE.

I cannot affirm that
these restorations of

of colour will recom:
mend themselves to
the taste of every
Spectator in every
particular but I think
them, on the whole,
extremely successful
and they are generally
admired. The old method
of decoration, of which
excellent specimens
remain, has been, for
the most part, respected
and I am bound to
state that the only
colour which at first
sight offended my eye
is one that is distinctly
sanctioned by precedent
in a contemporary build:
ing. No doubt much
will be gained by
experience in this
matter. The restoration

of Colour in a Native Structure has never before been attempted under European direction in this Residency and the unassisted Native has almost forgotten the arts of his forefathers.

(4) The restoration of the plaster figures and patterns in the ~~[illegible]~~ vestibule D. ~~[illegible]~~ and on the facade of the Great Court K. The figures are grotesques of various kinds in bestial or human types: they do not include any of the ~~[illegible]~~ popular divinities of the Country. The old models have been adhered to and if the execution is inferior to the work of the ancient artists this defect is scarcely apparent to the eye

on account of the great elevation at which these objects are, for the most part, placed. In modelling as in painting a decline in the skill of the Native artificer is to be lamented but these very works are a practical school in which he may recover his dexterity.

VII. Such being in a few words the mechanical and decorative restorations carried out for Government by Mr. Chisholm in the last two years, I think it right to state that they have been effected at a very moderate outlay. The whole expenditure up to the end of the current official year will be Rs. 20.000 of which

approximately, Rs. 14.000.
have been appropriated
to substantial repairs
and Rs 1000 to ornament.
It is hoped that these
figures may be satisfac-
tory to some who have
expressed an apprehen-
sion that the Government
in prosecuting aesthetic
designs may be led to
neglect the solid interests
of the Country.

VIII In addition to the
works conducted for
Govt. by Mr Chisholm he
has directed the adap-
tation of an external
portion of the building
marked J. J. for the
Municipality of Madura
which has shewn an
intelligent and patriotic
interest in the restoration
of a National Monument.
The Municipal Office

their provided has cost about Rs. 5000. The same amount of accommodation could not have been obtained for a smaller charge in any other way. The Municipal Commission of Madura have thus helped the Govt. in a good work, gratified their own taste and done no injustice to their public trust.

IX. I now proceed to submit my impressions with reference to the manner in which the works at the Madura Palace should be conducted in future and the objects to which they should be directed.

The works of restoration should be conducted patiently and gradually in the spirit which has animated the restorers of our Cathedrals in England, by the continuous application of small annual grants.

Few who are now living in India will see the good but success. No Governments may be satisfied if they contribute to it. It has now been shown that the old structure can be rendered secure and can be rendered ornamental. We should move in the same prudent groove. I would advise Govt. to appropriate the usual annual grant Rs. 10.000. for next year and that it should be, exclusively,

employed, according to Mr Chisholm's advice, for the repairs and security of the most ruinous parts of the building. Mr Chisholm should be called upon to submit a report stating the specific objects to which these repairs should be direct: and the Department of Public Works should be instructed to assist him in the preparation of plans and estimates for this purpose.

It will be remarked, however, that if the ordinary Govt. grant of Rs. 10,000 be appropriated merely to the repair of ruinous portions of the building which are in a great measure remote from the portions most available for immediate public use, little would

be done, for some time, towards the main object we have at heart; that is the provision of suitable, convenient and secure accommodation for the [proposed] public offices of the Madura District. The Govt. may think it advisable therefore :-

(1) To lay down some fixed plan for the appropriation of various portions of the building and,

(2) to consider whether some means may not be found for accelerating the object in view without imposing any charge on the public revenue.

XI. The Palace of Madura is large enough to hold many public offices, but some respect must be shown for the design and proportions of the building. Some sacrifice

of architectural effect must be made to utility but that sacrifice should not be greater than is indispensable. It appears to me that seven public offices may be conveniently accommodated without any serious detriment to artistic beauty:–
(1) The Collectors Cutchery. (2) The Court of the Civil and Sessions Judge. (3) The District Moonsiffs Court. (4) The Department of Public Works. (5) The Forest Department (6) The Sub-Magistrates Court (7) The Talook Cutchery.

XII In the Collectors Cutchery the following provision should be made.

The Collector should have the whole area behind the great circular Hall, now occupied by three large rooms and all the pillared space

to the South of the great Circular Hall. Of the three large rooms (E.E.) opened to, two would remain as they are but the largest (which is about 70 feet long and 30 broad) would be divided into three. In this way five spacious secure and separate rooms would be available to this Officer for his own use, for the Treasury, for the Registration Office, for the Records and for his Assistant. The pillared space, (F.F.) which can easily be rendered light, airy and weather tight would give sitting and working room for any number of clerks.

XIII The great Oblong Hall H. would be appropriated for the purposes of a Civil and Sessions Court

for which it is better
suited than any building
in the Country. The aisles
of the ~~grand~~ ground floor
would be divided into
small consulting and
writing rooms for the
Vakheels. The aisles above
would be used for the
Court-records. The small
contiguous circular
building I. with its depen-
dencies, would supply a
private apartment for
the Judge. The whole of
the pillared space to
the north of the great-
circular Hall F.F. would
be given over to the clerks'
of the Court-from which
this space is easily
accessible. ~~The District~~
XIV The District
Moonsiff's Court would be
placed in the square
Hall on the north side
of the great-Court- G. in
easy communication

13 10

with the Civil and Sessions Court by the Surrounding portico.

XV. The Department of Public Works would be placed in the Square Hall on the South Side of the great Court, &c. in easy Communication with the Collector's Office at the adjacent end.

XVI. The Forest Department would be placed in the Gallery on the South Side of the Court between the Collectors Office and the Department of Public Works.

XVII The Sub-Magistrates Court would be placed in the Gallery between the District Moonsiff's Court and the pillared Space occupied by the Establishment of the Civil and Sessions Court.

XVIII. The Taloo{k} Cutchery

would be placed between
the District Provost's
Court and the Municipal
Office.
XIX No doubt these arrange-
ments would necessitate
the erection of low par-
titions cutting the vistas
of the Galleries and
Porticoes here and there
but enough clear space
would be left to show
the majesty of the edifice
and the restoration which
is contemplated has always
been presented as an
economical and useful
as well as an artistic
enterprise.
XX Under the scheme sub-
mitted the great circular
Hall, E which I presume
to have been the Durbar
Hall of the ancient
Sovereigns, would remain
unappropriated to any

purely official purpose I think it should be reserved as a vacant space to separate the domain of the Collector from the domain of the ~~High~~ Court. It would be available for public receptions and ceremonies, for public meetings, lectures and other purposes of that nature. When the work of restoration has been completed it might afford an appropriate position for a commemorative Statue of the Queen.

~~XXI~~ While the regular appropriation of Rs. 10.000, due to the work in the course of next year, is being used for the repair of those portions of the building which might at any time collapse under the

influence of the weather
it would be desirable
to provide an extraordinary
supply of funds to secure
the Collector and the
Judge as soon as possible
in the possession of their
respective apartments.
This object can be
attained in the following
manner. The Collector's
Cutchery is at present
placed in an old building
belonging to Govt., Rs.
without antiquarian
interest but more crowded
and inconvenient than
could be well imagined
by those who have never
visited it. This building,
which must at any
rate be soon vacated
as altogether unsuitable
is fortunately so placed as
to have a considerable
value in the market

as a Native residence or as a depôt for goods. The Acting Collector values it at more than Rs. 20.000. I would advise that the Govt. should direct this building to be sold and that the price obtained should be carried to the account of the restoration of the Palace, but particularly for the purpose of completing the quarters destined for the Collector and the Judge. In the Act of Sale a right might be stipulated on the part of Govt., to remain as tenants in the building, at an appropriate rent, for a period not exceeding two years. The purchase money would thus

be immediately available while the Cutchery would not be disturbed before the new accommodation was prepared.

XXII

I wish it was possible for me to predict how long it may take to accomplish the work on which the Govt. has embarked or what aggregate outlay the scheme may eventually involve. After some of the most dangerous portions of the building have been secured in the course of next year and the quarters for the Collector and Judge have been, at least provisionally, set in order, there will remain a long series of repairs and decorations throughout the interior: After that

the pavements, the external facades and the towers and pinnacles will all have to be objects of careful study and renewal; finally, the vicinity and approaches must be cleared and brought into harmony with the restored edifice.

These works may easily occupy a period of 15 years and ~~[illegible]~~, the application, for every purpose, of two lacs of rupees: but the time need not be grudged and the cost will not exceed the charge for a new Collector's Cutcherry, a new Civil and Sessions Court and sufficient accommodation for the other subordinate departments provided for, which

would undoubtedly
reach the same sum
at present rates.
XIII Though it would be
premature at this
moment to undergo
any great expendi-
ture in buying up the 394.
hovels which, on two
sides, approach close
to the walls of the
Palace, there is one
Native house which it
would be of importance
to purchase at once,
as it almost blocks
up the external entrance
to the two rooms which
are to be temporarily
used as the Civil and
Sessions Court. The Acting
Collector should be
instructed to negotiate
for the acquisition of
this house and to

defray the cost from the funds provided by the Sale of the old Cutcherry. The price will be no greater matter.

~~XXIV.~~ In Conclusion I wish to express my Sense of the ability and exertions of the Govt. Architect in giving effect to the instructions of Govt. in regard to this work and the gratification I have felt in witnessing the interest which the Superintending Engineer, Colonel Roberts; the Acting Collector, Mr. McIuhae and the Native Community have evinced in the progress of the undertaking.

Madras. Nov. 20th 1871. Napier

[illegible] No 5926

Renuto ~ Ali

Madura Palace

Dated Novr. 20th /71.

Recd/13th Decr/71.

No 134

No 69 - 11th Jany /72

No. 6 Public Works Deptt.

Proceedings of the Madras Govt.

Read the following

From

The Consg. Architect to Government } (H.C. No. 250 of 10 Novr./71)

Minute by the Right Honble the President - (H.E. No. - d/ 20 Nov/71)

1 The foregoing Minute of His Excellency the President will be communicated to the Public and the Revenue Departments, to the Superintending Engineer of the 8th Division and the Consulting Architect, and it will be laid on the Editors table.

2 The arrangements proposed

proposed by His Excellency
for the appropriation of
various portions of the
Palace will be adopted.

3 Mr Chisholm
will with reference to
Para 9 report the manner
in which he would recom-
-mend that the grant of
Rupees 10,000 to be made
available for expenditure
next year should be utilized.

4 Orders will
be issued in the Financial
Department for giving
effect to the suggestion
made in Para 21 with
a view to providing funds
for the special purpose of
completing the accommodation
in

19

in the Palace for the Collector and the Judge.

5 Para 231 will be referred to the Revenue Department for the issue of the necessary orders to the Acting Collector.-

J.
No. 30th

80/8

To The Cons Architect
S. Eng. 8 D.
Public Dept.
Rev Dept.
Financial Dept.
Controller
Editors table

With sketch / see in 80 Go 82 file 24-7-7
Dept. 12-1-72

(9)

R.C. 5 Dec 1872 -
2d Decr/71 Pa. 7th

20

Letter from the Consulting Architect dated 10 November 1871. No 250.

Proposals contained in a separate Minute

N.

Circulated for orders with reference to Mr Chisholm's General Remarks.

[signature] Col RE

Secretary to Government.

November 1871.

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25-1-72

81
15-1-72

24-2-14 B I
7-9-16 BI ✓
14-7-17 BI ✓

Nos 5426 #5926

Govt. of (1872) Madras.

PUBLIC WORKS.

To The Consulting Architect

Dated

Recd. Encl.

G. O. 11 Jany 1872 No. 69-

Nos. 133 @ 135

~~Tiru~~ Teroomala Naik's Palace at Madura. Papers orders on papers relating to the restoration of Teroomala Naik's Palace at Madura

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